

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**October 23 & 24, 2021
22nd Sunday of Pentecost**

**Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace
Pastor Scott Hackler – Pastor Gary Benson**

OUR VISION

“To help our congregation and community know Christ and grow in faith, so we can run the race of life with grace, hope, peace, and joy.”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord” Fred Bornhoeft

INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: “O God of Mercy, God of Light”

O God of mercy, God of light, / in love and mercy infinite, / teach us, as ever in your sight, / to live our lives in you.

You sent your Son to die for all, / that our lost world might hear your call; / oh, hear us lest we stray and fall! / We rest our hope in you.

Teach us the lesson Jesus taught: / to feel for those his blood has bought, / that ev'ry deed and word and thought / may work a work for you.

For all are kindred, far and wide, / since Jesus Christ for all has died; / grant us the will, and grace provide / to love them all in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt. Public Domain.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sins to God, who welcomes us with an open heart.

C: God our comforter: like lost sheep, we go astray. You provide for our every need, yet we see scarcity. You love all people, yet we fear and turn from those foreign to us. You fill the world with life, yet we get stuck thinking only of our life. Gracious God, open our eyes to see as you do. Free us to love our neighbor boldly. Loosen our tongues to speak your words of life. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God frees you. You are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Led by the Holy Spirit, go and carry out God's mission for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: “This Is the Day”

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it. / This is the day that the Lord has made; / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this the day that the Lord has made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Our God” Ken Carnes

THE READING: Jeremiah 31:7-9

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.” See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM: Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed. Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negeb. Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Sing)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? / You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 10:46-52

As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: “A Cry, A Plea, A Prayer!” *Pastor Gary Benson*

HYMN OF THE DAY: “There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

There's a wideness in God's mercy, / Like the wideness of the sea; / There's a kindness in his justice / Which is more than liberty. / There is no place where earth's sorrows / Are more felt than up in heaven. / There is no place where earth's failings / Have such kindly judgment given.

There is welcome for the sinner, / And more graces for the good; / There is mercy with the Saviour; / There is healing in his Blood. / There is grace enough for thousands / Of new worlds as great as this; / There is room for fresh creations / In that upper home of bliss.

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; / It is something more than all: / Greater good because of evil, / Larger mercy through the fall. / If our love were but more simple, / We should take him at his word; / And our lives would be all sunshine / In the sweetness of our Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863. Public Domain.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Response: Your mercy is great.*)

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.

C: Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, almighty and merciful God. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying; Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: God of new life, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless our feast and grace our table with your presence. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AND PRAYER

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Amazing Grace"

Amazing grace! - how sweet the sound / that saved a wretch like me! / I once was lost, but now am found; / was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, / and grace my fears relieved; / how precious did that grace appear / the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares / I have already come; / 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, / and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; / his word my hope secures; / he will my shield and portion be / as long as life endures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807. Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Scripture Reader: Anne Ellenberger

Hymn Vocalists: Karen Boeck, Tom Chambers, Nancy Newman, Candace Renwall

Audio & Lighting: Jim Miller

Producer & Editor: Jerry Huston

*****Announcements & Upcoming Events*****



WELCOME SESSIONS are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn why our church exists and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our mission and vision, and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is **Monday, November 8th, at 10:00 am**. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!



GRIEFSHARE – This program focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally-respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. Your workbook will reinforce the weekly session topics. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You do not need to be a member of Spirit of Grace to attend.

GriefShare will be held Thursdays, August 5 - October 28, 10:00-11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Each session is independent of the other. *You can start anywhere in the 13-week cycle and make up missed sessions in the next cycle.* A donation of \$15.00 is requested to cover the cost of your GriefShare Workbook. To register call the church office at 623-977-6000 or contact Deborah Frusciano 602-909-8369. Learn more about GriefShare at griefshare.org.



HARVEST HOMECOMING DINNER & MUSIC – Nov 14. Cost \$20. Time 5-8 PM Thanksgiving Dinner at Spirit of Grace with all the trimmings followed by musical entertainment by Mirror Image. Tickets are currently available online at spiritofgrace.com or you may stop in the office with cash or a check made out to SOG to receive a ticket during the week.



REFORMATION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 31ST – Please *wear red* next weekend in honor of Reformation!

*Everyone is welcome to participate in all Spirit of Grace events and ministries:
you do not need to be a registered member.*